GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE

This spectacular night view shows New York City gleaming across the Hudson River. A second level recently added to the satisfact makes included level handle almost 200,000 cars, frucks and buses per average day.

Drusse keep the satisfact handle buses per church thouse village will never get between at between at between at between the satisfact and the wine at between the satisfact and the wine the satisfact and the wine the satisfact and the wine the satisfact and t

Palala

From:

Elissa Leonard <

Sent:

Monday, September 09, 2019 3:17 PM

To: Subject: Davis-Cook, Shana Fwd: Village Dog Park

### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Thomas Jarrett < tjarrett0531@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 2:33 PM

Subject: Village Dog Park

To: < Elissa.leonard@chevychasevillagemd.gov>

My wife and I have been residents of Chevy Chase Village for almost 14 years. We live on Quincy Street right down from the dog park. We each drive by several times a day and have always been impressed by what a great gathering place it is for our community. It seems that a minority are raising recurrent complaints about noise and misuse of the park. I must say that neither my wife nor I have ever witnessed this during our 14 years. It really makes me question the motives.

It would be a shame to let the sentiments of several people kill a great community gathering place. We should be proud of how we took a site that was a convenience (High's Dairy) store and turned it into a community property which brings joy to so many. If it was still the equivalent of a 7-11 market, these complaining neighbors would welcome the site of the dog park. Unfortunately I fear that the will get what they want and the park will essentially become a preserve that will sit unused and unappreciated.

Thomas Jarrett Martha Burke John Jarrett William Jarrett Elizabeth Jarrett

Elissa Leonard

Byla

From:

Elissa Leonard

Sent:

Monday, September 09, 2019 3:18 PM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana

Subject:

Fwd: Brookville Road-Dog Exercise Area

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Geraldine Carr <gcarr.home@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Sep 9, 2019 at 2:08 PM

Subject: Brookville Road-Dog Exercise Area

To: < <u>Elissa.leonard@chevychasevillagemd.gov</u>>, < <u>Robert.goodwin@chevychasevillagemd.gov</u>>.

<David.winstead@chevychasevillagemd.gov>, <Richard.ruda@chevychasevillagemd.gov>,

< Gary.crockett@chevychasevillagemd.gov>, < Nancy.watters@chevychasevillagemd.gov>,

<Linda.willard@montgomerycountymd.gov>

#### Dear Board Members.

I write to communicate my opposition to the Chevy Chase Village Board's proposal to close the Brookville Park. I am a village resident, taxpayer, and dog owner.

I find it absurd that yet another validly-proposed and -decided action by the Board will fall due to the vocifer emotional post facto opposition of a minority of residents. The Park must remain open and available for use residents.

The Board of Managers ("Board") duly considered the proposal to establish a Dog Exercise Area (DEA) at Brookville Road Park. It is my understanding that the proposal to establish a designated area was made in residents' observations that people were taking their dogs to the area and letting them off-leash in contrave county leash law. This proposal seemed to present a compromise to meet the needs of the dog-owner resi the space and those who wished to install some method to control dogs therein.

The Board has used a substantial amount of taxpayer resources in its determination to install the DEA. I be the Board voted to hire Lila Fendrick to design the DEA as part of the Brookville Park rehabilitation and ma thereto in response to Board and public input. I do not know the cost of these professional drawings, but I c were de minimus. A local magazine stated that the cost of installation of the area was estimated to be as h \$78,000. Some would argue that the park area was in need of refurbishment anyhow, but such park refurb have cost considerably less and would have been designed differently. Regardless, residents' moneys wer the design and installation of the DEA.

There were many opportunities in which residents could voice their opposition and convince the Board not include a DEA.

I am aware of at least two public hearings in 2017 to discuss the proposals wherein village residents had the opportunity to voice their opinions (pro and con) concerning the installation of a DEA. I believe that the Bosto such concerns and modified the DEA to ensure the space would work for all stakeholders. I deduce from decision to include the DEA that the members were not convinced that the DEA would be sufficiently detrir surrounding neighbors as to forego its installation.



Every property resident purchases his or her property with the knowledge of abutting or adjacent lands or a may not be to his or her liking and yet has elected to live there. At the July 8 meeting Ms. Leonard spoke o of the adjacent residents to the DEA. I personally appreciate your sympathetic position regarding these res regard, but, in other instances, the Board and village staff have not been as solicitous of abutting neighbor: be burdened by neighboring parks, churches, etc. that have been deemed a "public good." as a property of "access to parking adjacent to residents' homes" is impacted on a daily basis by All Saints Church non-reli lessees (eg. scouts, music lessons, AA - activities), nursery school, and church functions and whose proportions reduce only the number of hours that people can park in front of my house have gone unheeded. I must pc the village government has not been as solicitous and deferential to everyone's issues regarding the bearing burden by a few for the public good and I believe that this current burden is insufficient to override the publ derives from the use of the DEA. The complaints of the neighbors (how many?) seem to center on parking and excrement. The parking overburden is not unique to these residents, but impacts many residents of the There are many instances where " [A] small number of residents are being .... asked to bear the burden of asset." The residents who live on the first unit block of Magnolia Parkway, for instance, have to bear the b commuting public parking all day in front of their houses and walking off into the District to go to their jobs, limiting or preventing "access to parking adjacent to residents' homes" because there are no parking restri that block.

My personal burden of being subject to more liberal parking hours, which in actuality are not enforced, is a example of a resident bearing the burden for the community asset, namely All Saints Church. (In my opinic Village needs to review parking at All Saints especially the unlimited granting of village parking stickers and restrictive use of the Church off-street parking so that the lot remains empty while the street parking is full.) problem with dogs barking is difficult to monitor and enforce against. Our abutting neighbors used to have a continuously barked for hours and barked when anyone in my family walked into my backyard, thereby cur use of my property.

Yes, a concentration of dogs can increase the risk of barking, but we cannot control every dog or every dog movement. What would you do if a dog-walker with several dogs started barking in front of a house every can you regulate that? Would the Board mandate that no more than one dog can be walked at a time? Whappen if the DEA is disestablished and the dogs continue to gather at the park? Further, dog excrement is always be a community issue as long as people have dogs. I did not read that there was a greater volume area, just that the dogs "did their business" upon exiting hi/her owner's vehicle. Dogs do their business eve is incumbent upon the owner to be a responsible citizen to pick up and dispose of his/her pet's excrement. Board decides to ban dogs, the community is stuck with dealing with their excrement.

The Village Board was not elected to represent its residents by governing by minority rule. Yet, in this insta appears that the Board is willing to capitulate to this small number of neighbors and ignore the greater num residents who wish to have the Dog Park continue as it has given public notice of a proposal to "disestablis on September 9, 2019. The most recent modifications regarding times to use the DEA and self-monitoring reasonable efforts to ensure that the complaints of the adjacent neighbors are dealt with respectfully withouthe majority who wish the DEA to remain open. I understand that the restriction on use of the DEA just beg but I hope that there will be some way to determine whether this reasonable modification will allay the neig concerns and that this data will be disseminated to the village residents to determine more accurately what burden occurs from this community asset.

Thank you for your public service. Please vote no on the proposal to disestablish the Dog Exercise Area.

Sincerely,

Gerri Carr

From:

Kathie Legg <kathleenlegg@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 09, 2019 2:47 PM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana

Subject:

Dog Park

## [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi Shana,

For what it's worth, I would like to keep the dog park as if. We've spent the money and it seems silly to remove it because a few neighbors complained. And for the record, we do not own a dog.

Cheers,

Kathie

M

DATE: September 8, 2019

RE: <u>Brookville</u> Dog Park

The Town of Chevy Chase is also considering what to do regarding a potential dog park in our community. Because some of our residents have used the Brookville dog park, and perhaps Village residents might use a future TOCC dog park, I wanted to offer some points that might be relevant to your deliberations. If the Town does build a dog park in Zimmerman Park, the extra capacity might take some pressure off the Brookville dog park. And if the Town and Village both proceed with limited use dog parks it might make sense to coordinate operating schedules and usage rules to optimize the benefits and minimize adverse impacts of both parks.

The Town has not reached a conclusion about whether to build a dog park or not yet, and these are just my personal views at this point. We have many dog owners who would like to see a dog facility installed in Zimmerman Park, however, we also have neighbors living near the park who have legitimate concerns about dog park impacts. If the Town decides to try out a dog park on a probational basis, I am sure we would take steps to mitigate impacts on immediate neighbors, including:

- Using fence and landscape design to reduce visual and noise impacts
- Limiting operating hours, and possibly only opening the park a few days each week
- Limiting the number of dogs allowed in the park
- E Staffing the park with volunteer monitors to help keep the park as clean and quiet as possible
- Enforcing parking regulations near the park

Another option under consideration is a membership system where people from the Town and elsewhere who wish to use the dog park would pay an annual fee towards maintaining the park. Whatever the Town does would regular reviews of park performance and impacts on neighbors. Those reviews would initially determine what adjustments might be necessary to refine park operating strategies, and ultimately help us decide whether the dog park experiment should continue or not.

I wish you good luck in finding a compromise solution that works well for all of your residents.

Sincerely,

Kirk Renaud

(Again, these are personal reflections, not a Town Council communication)

Plajalia

xjoenoa@aol.com

Sent:

Thursday, September 05, 2019 5:45 PM

To:

craig\_ferris@verizon.net; ccvillage@yahoogroups.com; martins-additions-chevy-

chase@googlegroups.com; Village, Chevy Chase

Subject:

Re: [Martin's Additions googlegroup] Opposition to Dog Exercise Area in the Brookville

Road Park

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Craig and Nancy - While our Quincy Street property is not as directly impacted as yours, I agree with everything you have said. Since the park was "renovated" it has attracted many people outside of the neighborhood. Cars with DC plates regularly park in front of our house and a couple of dogs and a walker hop out and head to the park. Prior to the "renovation," the park was at least attractive. Now, it is an eyesore and a public health threat. The increased traffic, out of jurisdiction use, failure of owners/walkers to control pets, accumulation of poop, attraction of rats, etc., make the space a public nuisance. I think it should be returned to its original state - a green space in our neighborhood. I definitely took our dogs (Jack and Finn) there for ball toss prior to the "renovation," but back then it was never crowded and everyone picked up after their pets. Frankly, I am unclear as to who controls the actual property - Town of Chevy Chase alone or Martins Additions as well. Impacted Martins Additions property owners should seriously consider filing a noise, nuisance, health civil action. Sydney

----Original Message----

From: 'Craig Ferris' via Martin's Additions googlegroup <martins-additions-chevy-chase@googlegroups.com> To: ccvillage@yahoogroups.com <ccvillage@yahoogroups.com>; SERV LIST <martins-additions-chevychase@googlegroups.com>; ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov <ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Sent: Tue, Sep 3, 2019 12:36 pm

Subject: [Martin's Additions googlegroup] Opposition to Dog Exercise Area in the Brookville Road Park

To residents of Chevy Chase Village and Martins Additions and the Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers

We live in the 100 block of Quincy St. which is located in Martins Additions. Our property directly abuts the Dog Exercise Area of the Brookville Road Park.

While we have tried to be understanding, the development of the dog area and its increasing use is a severe nuisance to us and others near us and is having a very negative effect on our quality of life.

Before you take a position on retaining the dog exercise area, please consider the following questions and issues: How would you like to have a dog park right behind your house? How would you react if green space at the foot of Newlands Street or the area behind the Chevy Chase Village Hall was turned into a dog park? Before you answer that question, please consider the following factors:

Barking—While some users of the dog park have become more conscientious about controlling their dogs, a substantial number still turn their pets loose and allow them to bark excessively. There have been loud dog fights when the owners have done very little to stop the fights and noise.

The problem has lessened during the summer because many people have been on vacation, and the creation of a park steward program has helped. Stewards can be heard asking people to quiet their dogs.

With the advent of fall, however, more people will be using the park and, if history is any guide, interest and participation in the steward program will diminish or vanish, resulting in a return to excessive barking and noise.

Parking—The dog exercise area is attracting an increasing number of people who arrive by auto and park on Primrose. the unit block of Quincy and our 100 block of Quincy. More cars are coming from well outside of the immediate neighborhood, such as the District of Columbia. While most of the people parking on our street do not cause problems beyond congestion, some can be seen letting their dogs out of their cars and allowing them to run up onto neighbors' lawns to pee and poop. That is unacceptable. There is not much that can be done to stop that behavior, but it will only get worse as more dog owners are attracted to the park.

Dog Feces and Rats—We have a clear view of the dog exercise area from the back of our home and deck, While many owners appear to be conscientious about picking up after their dogs, we have seen a significant number of owners simply ignore the feces left by their pets.

Unless steps are taken by the village to clean up the feces, there will be a resurgence of the rat infestation that existed in and around the old park.

Because of that rat infestation, we had rat bait stations installed several years ago along our side of the fence between our back yard and the dog park. We re-bait those stations every few weeks. Interestingly, the bait was not eaten during the time when the park was under construction. But now that the park is back in use and some people are not cleaning up after their dogs, the bait is being eaten again—which means that a new rat problem is developing.

We realize that is very difficult to force people to clean up after their pets, but we ask that the village employ a pest control company to install bait stations in the park, refill the stations regularly, and take other rat abatement measures as needed. Supervision—The village contends that it has tried to address concerns over the impact of the dog park by increasing signage, having village police perform daily patrols of the park and creating a park steward program to reinforce the rules-none of which works very well. Some users of the park routinely ignore the rules, the stewards do not appear to be there very often and village police officers drive past the park but never set foot in it. Even though the park is supposed to be closed at dusk, people can be heard in the park well after dark and some can be seen in the park well before the opening hours. If the village is serious about enforcing its rules for the dog exercise area, it should employ a park supervisor to enforce the rules and lock the park at dusk and unlock it at the appointed hour in the morning. Should the Dog Exercise Area Exist at All?—When the park was established in the early 1980s, abutters in Martins Additions and Chevy Chase Village were asked to make donations to help make the purchase and make improvements, such as fencing. When we purchased our house in 1986, the previous owners told us that abutters were told that the village had agreed that the park would remain "green space" with no improvements "in perpetuity." However, when Chevy Chase Village officials decided a few years ago to create the dog park, abutters were told that the requirement that the park remain green space no longer applied. They contended that the requirement was part of a conservation grant from the state of Maryland used to finance acquisition of the land for the park and that any limitations expired after 25 years. As a result, the village said it could do whatever it wanted with the park. With that decision, all promises made to abutters

A Fundamental Flaw—The dog exercise area is simply too small to accommodate the number of people and dogs that use it. It fails to meet the standards set for dog parks by the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, especially the requirements for setbacks from nearby homes. It appears to be virtually impossible to make any changes that would lessen the dog park's negative impact on abutting households.

After considering these questions and the associated problems with the dog exercise area, we hope that you will support the Board of Managers proposal to eliminate or "disestablish" the dog area and remove the fencing along Brookville Road. The park now only serves a minority who own dogs. We urge that its use be returned to all residents. Sincerely,

Craig and Nancy Ferris

who contributed to the park were tossed out.

The Martin's Additions googlegroup was established to share information of interest to our community.

Emails must be civil. No personal attacks ,no pointless or redundant messages, no for-profit announcements \*\*No closing with name of company or advertisement: Just the name of the person sending the email. \*\*

To post an email on the googlegroup, send your email to martins-additions-chevy-chase@googlegroups.com.

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Martin's Additions googlegroup" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to <a href="martins-additions-chevy-chase+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com">martins-additions-chevy-chase+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com</a>.

To view this discussion on the web visit <a href="https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/martins-additions-chevy-chase/590965885.1131138.1567528576887%40mail.yahoo.com">https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/martins-additions-chevy-chase/590965885.1131138.1567528576887%40mail.yahoo.com</a>

Matt Schneider < MSchneider@gsblaw.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 05, 2019 7:16 PM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Subject:

Dog park

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I live at 107 Quincy Street. My name is Matthew Schneider. I'm writing to join the chorus of those who are suggesting that the dog park be returned to a regular park.

While I am not directly impacted in the way many others are and love dogs, regrettably I think we have to admit that the park has become something of an attractive nuisance.

We had a dog for many years and brought our dog to the park before it was a dog park. The dog park is better for dogs but the old park was better for humans. I recommend that you go with the interests of humans in this case.

Turning the park back to a human park with reasonable rules to be used by everyone will enable dogs and their owners to use the park as we did in the old days. But it should dramatically reduce the health, parking, congestion, and noise issues.

Thanks for listening.

Matt Schneider

Sent from my iPhone



Ruth Kincaid < ruthakincaid@gmail.com>

Sent: To:

Friday, September 06, 2019 9:28 AM

Village, Chevy Chase

**Subject:** 

Dog Park

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

#### Board Members:

I am aware of the controversy surrounding the dog park on Brookville Road through the article in the Washington Post and I am aware that a board meeting is taking place to decide on its fate.

As a Montgomery County property owner, I would like to go on record as supporting the disestablishment of the dog park. Although an avid dog lover, I believe the noise pollution caused by dogs off leash is disadvantages to the homeowners in the community.

Thank you, Ruth Kincaid

From:

Tom Bourke <thomaskbourke@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 06, 2019 10:42 AM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana; Sands, Ellen

Subject:

Alternate dog park locations

**Attachments:** 

hearing 9-9-19 alt locations - willard, meadowbrook.pdf

## [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Board of Managers,

We love dogs and value parks for them, and believe that the Brookville Park as originally envisioned and presented might have worked. However once it became clear that the CCV Staff Proposed Policy of 3/7/17, could not be implemented, the usage of the park became unmanageable - especially now after all the public attention.

In the interest of finding solutions, I researched some nearby alternate locations. Here are diagrams and area calculations for two nearby alternate sites for a dog park.

- 1. The first, Willard Ave, is on the County's website as a possible candidate which meets their criteria. I just inserted an illustrative 10,000 sf box to show how easily it could fit.
- 2. The other at Meadowbrook (at the foot of Leland and Woodbine streets, near Candy Cane City playground) meets <u>all</u> the County criteria, and it does not disturb any forested areas, does not displace any ball fields, and is actually closer to the homes off-leash proponents in Rollingwood, Dunlop Hills, Martins Addition etc.

Montgomery County clearly needs more dog parks. They currently have 6 parks for a population of over one million people. To ask our little 1/3-acre park in a quiet neighborhood to bear the brunt of providing the 7th park is unworkable and unreasonable.

I'd be happy to work with any committee or group to approach the County and believe that this would create a viable solution.

Thomas Bourke 35-year Village resident

orgalia

## Willard Ave Park

(on MNCPPC website as possible candidate and suggested by MNCPPC official)

Box is 10,000+ sf (100' x100' square) to show scale, not an exact location

#### Approx 7+ acres, owned by MNCPPC

#### **County Criteria**

- 1. Unconstrained land area shown here: 10,000 sf;
- 2. No nearby playgrounds
- 3. Nearest residences: site size is more than adequate to exceed 200' distance (to visualize scale: each side of the sample box is 100')
- 4. Parking: Could be provided off Willard Ave.
- 5. Visibility, safety: could be addressed in the design specifics

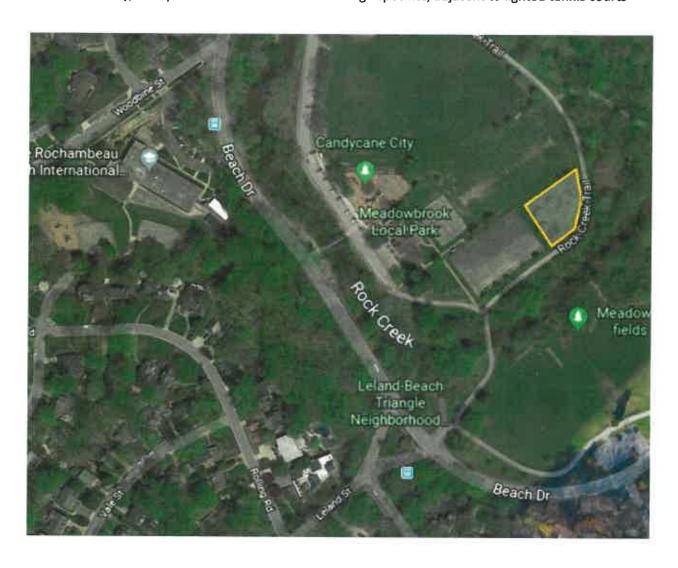


#### Meadowbrook Local Park

Between Leland and Woodbine at Beach Drive in Rock Creek area. MNCPPC ownership

#### County criteria

- 1. Unconstrained land area shown here: 13,900 sf;
- 2. 300' to playground (Candy Cane City);
- 3. nearest residences: generally, 750' and uphill, on the other side of Beach Drive
- 4. Parking on Beach Drive;
- 5. Visibility, safety: could be addressed in the design specifics, adjacent to lighted tennis courts



## Meadowbrook sites detail



# Alternate Meadowbrook location (smaller)



From:

Betsy Stephens <betsystephens44@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 05, 2019 10:01 PM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana

Subject:

Opposition to the Dog Park

### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To: the Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers

From: Betsy & Ralph Stephens, 11 Magnolia Parkway

The small area that is now officially a dog park was originally purchased by the Village to prevent it being purchased by an S&L and being forever zoned as commercial space. The plan was to establish a small green park in the East Village that it has been for nearly forty years. It is not appropriate to take that small green space where children used to play and neighbors used to sit and turn it in to a small dirt pit where dogs can run. It is not fair to adjacent neighbors and not appropriate for that small area surrounded by nearby neighbors.



From:

Mark Nadel <markvnadel@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, September 05, 2019 8:46 PM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana

**Subject:** 

Dog Park

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I'm don't know if you are the point person in assembling comments for the Board about the dog park, but if not I would appreciate your forwarding this message to the appropriate people. While we live nowhere near the park (we're on Cedar Parkway), I am very sympathetic to the problems of those near the park. I just heard that the County has a policy that dog parks must be at least 200 feet from a residence and must have parking--neither of which was complied with by the Village. If that's the case those factors should have been considered.

One thing I learned as a public policy guy is that you can't get trapped by sunk costs. This thing wasn't well considered and is a very substantial quality of life issue for the abutting neighborhood. Just make it a green space and enforce leash laws there as well.

Best,

Mark Nadel

Pralalin

Cooper, Caroline <caroline\_cooper@fanniemae.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 09, 2019 4:29 PM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Subject:

Comment on dis-establishing the Dog Park

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello: While I am sympathetic to concerns of crowded and excessive noise at the dog park, I am curious to hear tonight how 'real and persistent' these problems are, since in the dozen times I have visited I have never witnessed any of the bad behavior that a few people are complaining about. I am also curious to understand whether the homeowners abutting the park have a "right to silence" during the day. For example, most of us whose property doesn't abut a park also live with street traffic, lawn mowers, and even construction when our neighbors do a renovation. Is the noise from the park louder than what most of us live with? Are there any other modifications to the park before something as dramatic as a shut-down happens? (considering that we have already spent a significant amount of money to create this space?)

The park is such a lovely community gathering place, and the only place like it where our dogs can safely run free and play. I am certain that reasonable measures can be taken to mollify a handful of naysayers. Please don't shut down this park that you created with our support!

Sincerely, Caroline Cooper 139 Grafton Street

Caroline Cooper Executive Producer, Brand Journalism Communications and Marketing Fannie Mae 202-255-4853 (mobile) 202 752-5681 (office) Fanniemae.com

This e-mail and its attachments are confidential and solely for the intended addressee(s). Do not share or use them without Fannie Mae's approval. If received in error, delete them and contact sender.



Madeleine Kalb <mgkalb@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, September 09, 2019 12:18 AM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Cc:

mgkalb@yahoo.com

Subject:

A creative proposal to solve the dog park issue

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

A simple proposal from a non-dog owner that would remove tensions, create a true community institution, save taxpayers money, and make everyone happy:

Create a committee of dog owners to host alternating dog group play dates—either thirty (one turn per month) or seven (one turn per week).

Dog owners generally have a proper fenced setting.

They would be spread around the Village, thus sharing the barking.

They would be on private property, not in a public park, thus limiting access to residents and permitting excessively noisy or mean spirited dogs to be excluded.

Friendships among neighbors and dogs would flourish, and the public costs would be minimal.

Sent from my iPad

dalah

Florence Meers <florence.meers@wfp.com>

Sent:

Sunday, September 08, 2019 6:33 PM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Cc:

Jim Meers

Subject:

Dog Park

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Everyone,

What a wonderful facility....to have in town and so special for those in Chevy Chase Village. It is unique.....quite unusual to have so well located. We live on Quincy......and our dog loves the park...she is is not a barker....just a big gentle soul!!!!

So many folks on Quincy have dogs.....we love the park.....and what a tribute to people living near by......a meeting place.....such a special spot for all! Not many exist.

Florence and Jim Meers

#### Florence Meers

Cell Number is 202-487-7100

Washington Fine Properties Licensed in DC...MD....VA



Margo Kingston < mkingston 9@aol.com>

Sent:

Saturday, September 07, 2019 5:12 PM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Cc:

susan.kilborn56@gmail.com; mkingston9@aol.com

Subject:

Disestablishment of the Dog Exercise Area at Brookville Road Park

Follow Up Flag:

Flag Status:

Follow up Flagged

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To: Chase Village Board of Managers

From: Susan Kilborn and Margo Kingston, Co-Chairs of Parks and Green Spaces

Committee

We are the Co-Chairs of the Parks and Green Spaces Committee in Chevy Chase Village. It is our opinion that the Brookville Road Park should continue as a dog/people park as planned by the Village.

A little history here might be helpful. For several years, the park had been acting as a de facto dog park but a few years ago citizens requested that it be upgraded to an official dog park.

As you know, the Village is divided into two sections by Connecticut Avenue. The West Village has four parks and two Dedicated Right-of-Ways (Hesketh and Kirkside Streets, and the False Cypress Triangle across from the Village Hall between Laurel Parkway and West Kirke Street.) The East Village has Newlands Park and Brookville Road (dog) Park.

What is now the combined Brookville Road Dog and People Park is one of only two places on the East Side of Connecticut with a green space where dogs and people might mingle. The other site, Newlands Park, has no fenced-in area and faces heavy traffic along Connecticut Avenue.

prajalia

The Brookville Park was re-designed by a landscape architect at the request of Chevy Chase Village to accommodate people and dogs in separate parts of the space. Benches on the exterior of the fenced-in dog area provide space for people to sit and read or rest. A gate allows access to the fenced-in area, also with benches where dogs can run off leash from 8:00 AM – to sundown and on weekends, 9:00AM to sundown. These new hours were set in response to neighborhood complaints about barking.

Before the park was upgraded, our Committee members distributed fliers to park neighbors and knocked on their doors to inform them of the proposed action. We think it would be a shame to disestablish the dog exercise area of the park without testing the new restricted hours which were recently established. We urge the Board of Managers not to act hastily.

With cooperation, the park can continue to be a pleasant place for neighbors and dog owners, both, to gather and relax in the East Village.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan W. Kilborn, and Margo Kingston, Co-Chairs Parks and Green Spaces Committee

Margo Kingston plans to attend the meeting on September 9, and if time allows, will read this testimony.

Susan Dixon <smfdixon@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, September 06, 2019 9:29 PM

To:

Village, Chevy Chase

Subject:

Disestablishing the Dog Exercise Area

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

#### [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

#### Dear Board Members:

I am providing this communication to express my total support of the Dog Exercise Area being Disestablished. Residents who have properties adjoining this area should not have to listen to barking dogs at **any hour of the day**. Barking dogs are a nuisance! Furthermore, this area could likely diminish their home value as I certainly would not buy a house that had a dog exercise area adjacent to the back yard.

Furthermore, I am utterly dismayed that the Village spent \$134,000 (amount reported in the Washington Post) for establishing this area. I remembered questioning the \$80,000 figure that was originally floating around the Village for the cost of plantings and was told "oh, that is only an estimate"...implying that the Village would not spend that much money creating this space.

I remember years ago when Peter Yeo suggested that the Board consider designing a play area for children and that idea was not supported by the Board BUT yet this Board found the resources and support to create a space for dogs to be exercised by their owners.

I believe that the Board made a mistake and should correct it by Disestablishing the Dog Exercise Area. Dog owners will find other places (perhaps their own back yards) to exercise their dogs...just like parents had to develop play areas in their own back yards for their children to play.

Sincerely, Susan Dixon

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